

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 801

By DuBois

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. John Orlando Williams, Jr. of Maury County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. John Orlando "J.O." Williams, Jr., a retired Maury County physician and longtime Mt. Pleasant resident; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams was born in Gordonsburg on November 16, 1927, the son of the late John Orlando and Gladys Grissom Williams; he was a graduate of Columbia Military Academy, Vanderbilt University, and earned his Medical Degree at University of Tennessee and did post graduate work at St. Thomas Hospital; and

WHEREAS, he served his country with great honor and distinction during a ten-year tour of duty with the United States Marine Corps and received the Silver Star for Bravery in Action in the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams served the people of Mt. Pleasant with acumen and alacrity as the town's family physician for thirty years, later practicing medicine in Columbia for ten years. He served as the company physician for Stauffer Chemical Company for 30 years and as the Chief Physician for Columbia Military Academy for several years, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and patients alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a servant of the people, Dr. Williams was the State Medical Director of Volunteer Health Plan, HMO for one year. A ground breaker in many areas within his profession, Dr. Williams was the first Medical Director of the Workers Compensation Division of

the Tennessee Department of Labor, where he helped to organize and participated in the pilot program of case management for Medicaid for three years; and

WHEREAS, an extremely talented and highly respected physician whose services were in constant demand, Dr. Williams served as the first Medical Director for several prestigious healthcare facilities including the Ambulatory Care Center in Columbia in 1995, the Lewis Ambulatory Care Center in Hohenwald in 1996 and the Northside Medical Center in Columbia from 1997-1999 until his association with Core Physicians from 1999-2002, where he served as Physician Emeritus from 1999-2002; and

WHEREAS, very active in civic affairs and community activities, Dr. J.O. Williams was a founder and the first President of the Mt. Pleasant Country Club and the Mt. Pleasant Little League, and he was the former Mayor of the City of Mt. Pleasant; and

WHEREAS, he served as Chief of Staff of the Maury Regional Hospital, as President of Maury County Medical Society, as President of Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians, as Chairman of Legislative Committee for the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians for ten years, and was selected in 1981 as one of the Ten Most Outstanding Family Physicians in the United States by *Good Housekeeping Magazine*; and

WHEREAS, he was selected as Tennessee's Family Physician of the Year in 1982, and was the recipient of the Marise Lightfoot Community Service Award and was a member of the Fellow of American Academy Physicians; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams was an active and devout member of the Mt. Pleasant First United Methodist Church, which he served faithfully and taught Sunday School for many years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams was the proud father of five sons: John Orlando Williams, III and wife Kay Kay, David Walton Williams and wife Theresa, Carl Nicks Williams and wife Elizabeth, Lee Clement Williams and Thomas Allyn Williams and wife Kim; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams will also be missed by his loving grandchildren and great grandchildren: Dr. Rosemary Williams Johnson, Rebecca Anne Williams (Eric) Hughes, Carol Parks Williams (John) Carnahan, Walker Davis Williams, Ross McKelvey Williams, Bevin Anne Orlando Williams, Lee Davis Williams, Ashley Brooke Williams, Wesley Adam Williams, Taylor Allyn Williams, David Walton Williams, Jr., Kimmie Lee Williams, Buie MacAlester Williams, John Ireland Williams, Benjamin Fox Williams, Luke Ross Williams, Hooper McKelvey Johnson, Mary Kannon Johnson, Annabelle Grace Carnahan, Linton Alexander Hughes, and Amelia Sloan Carnahan; and

WHEREAS, he is also survived by a sister, Jane Williams Kay of Apalachicola, Florida, several nieces and nephews, and by devoted family friends, Lydia and Gary Benefield of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by one sister, Sara Ann Arthur, one brother, Harry Webb Williams, two nephews, Luke Williams Ross and William Meadow Ross, and a great niece, Amy Brawner; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Williams leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Dr. John Orlando Williams, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. J.O. Williams, Jr.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.